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JUNE 28, 2005

Date of Deposit

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

DE BRUIJN ET AL.

APPLICATION NO: 10/620,178

FILED: JULY 15, 2003

FOR: NEW ORAL FORMULATION

Art Unit: 1614

Examiner: Delacroix Muirhei, Cybille

MS: Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

PO Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In the above referenced office action, mailed on December 28, 2004, and having a period of response set to expire on February 28, 2005, the Applicants respectfully request the following amendment be entered and the claims considered in light thereof. Applicants also herein request a four month extension for this response as allowed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). The Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation for the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a).

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2. Remarks begin on page 5.